



KEESLER NEWS



Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

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Developing America's Airmen today ... for tomorrow

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Keesler News on Web:
<http://www.keesler.af.mil>



Dragons deployed —
70

Lord praises base's hurricane recovery

Experiences at Keesler prepared him for Pentagon challenges

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Just over a year has passed since Maj. Gen. William Lord turned over command of the 81st Training Wing for a new position at the Pentagon.

In his first return visit to the base Nov. 30, General Lord praised Keesler for its ongoing recovery from Hurricane Katrina and underscored the base's value to the Air Force's training mission.

General Lord is now director of information, services and integration in the Secretary of the Air Force's Office of Warfighting Integration and chief information officer at the Pentagon.

He leads a staff of 150 at the Pentagon, 500 at the Air Force Communications Agency at Scott Air Force Base, Ill., and



Photo by Kemberly Groue

General Lord said his experiences as Keesler's commander gave him an appreciation of the complexities and challenges of the technical training process.

100 at the Air Force Frequency Management Agency in Alexandria, Va.

He turned over leadership of the base to Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso less than three months after Katrina slammed the base.

When he departed, the base was poised to begin a \$950 million repair and rebuilding program, the largest military construction effort ever undertaken in such a short time frame.

General Lord was impressed

with the major progress at Keesler in the past year.

"Of the 535 repair jobs, more than 300 are done," he observed. "Now you're getting ready for the really big ones — building the new commissary, base exchange, the library and the multipurpose center to replace the clubs, not to mention more than a thousand new homes.

"There's still a long way to go, but compared to what I've seen in the surrounding communities, Keesler's quicker comeback will allow the base to be a bigger player in south Mississippi's recovery."

General Lord's 18 months as Keesler's commander gave him the knowledge that "training is the bedrock of what we do in the Air Force.

"So many of us have been through the training mechanism, but we're not always aware of that piece of the iceberg just below the water line, of what's really involved in training an Airman in any discipline," he explained. "I gained an appreciation of how complex and difficult the training process is, no matter the career field."

Please see **Lord**, Page 9

This week in the Triangle

Information management apprentice, 10 a.m. today, Thomson Hall.

Expeditionary communications officer, 1 p.m. today, McClelland Hall.

Communication-computer systems control, 10 a.m. Friday, Thomson Hall.

Computer networking cryptographic system, 10 a.m. Friday, Bryan Hall.

Communications-computer systems operations, 10 a.m. Monday, Thomson Hall.

Ground radio communications, 10 a.m. Monday, Jones Hall.

Personnel, 10:15 a.m. Tuesday, Wolfe Hall.

Air traffic control tower, 9 a.m. Wednesday, Cody Hall.



November honor flight

Student numbers

Total students — 3,176

Non-prior service — 2,087

Temporary duty — 967

Joint service — 95

Combat controllers — 25

Medical — 2

Non-prior service arrivals — 162

Guard, Reserve — 656

International — 27

Fiscal 2007 graduates — 4,010

Total since 1942 — 2,238,382

COMMENTARY

Air Force mission depends on 'good follow through'

By Lt. Col. Dale King

81st Training Support Squadron commander

If you've ever been a player on an athletic team or been around one, you've probably heard the expression "good follow through."

Coaches use this almost endlessly to reinforce habits that help improve a golf swing, a baseball pitcher's delivery, a basketball player's jump shot and so on. It's also used in business to ensure the sales department keeps the customer happy after the sale, and because it also encourages employees to finish tasks completely.

We need to apply "good follow through" to our military careers as well. If you've been in uniform any length of time, you've likely met or heard of someone who was "retired on active duty."

Think about that for a moment. How effective was that person to his unit? How much slack did someone else have to pick up for that person? Did that person care about the effects of being ROAD?

Think about those you've seen who "check out" well before their last duty day for a permanent change of station or retirement, report for duty and do as little as possible or were appointed as a supervisor and never bothered to find out what's really going on with their

subordinates. The impact of these kinds of things can destroy a unit's effectiveness.

Picture yourself closing the deal on your new house. You've saved for a long time and made numerous sacrifices to be able to purchase your home. What a great feeling.

Then you're told several of the construction workers who built your house didn't have that "good follow through." You discover all kinds of problems — doors don't close right, fixtures don't work, the roof leaks and so on. That lack of follow through can cost you thousands of dollars over the years and reflects very poorly on the builder.

The bottom line is the same for the military as in the civilian world. We need "good follow through" from everyone to ensure we can perform our mission. This applies to all activities from support to operations.

Look in the mirror. Do you have "good follow through"? Are you causing others to pick up your slack?

The recipe for "good follow through" includes integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do.

If you've "dropped papers," are thinking about it or have a new assignment, take pride in your last months where you are. You still have duties and responsibilities. Our mission depends on having "good follow through."

Celebrating hurricane-free 2006

By Lt. Col. Elia Sanjume

335th Training Squadron commander

I've added a new calendar date to my list of holidays — Nov. 30.

A holiday is a special day set aside for celebrating or giving thanks, and I think the official end of the hurricane season rises to that level.

Nov. 30, we breathed a collective sigh of relief as the first hurricane season after the Katrina disaster of 2005 came and went without a single storm threatening the area.

With visual reminders and personal memories of Katrina fresh in everyone's mind, nobody rested easy this year. We stocked our hurricane kits, developed evacuation plans and avidly watched The Weather Channel whenever a tropical disturbance was announced. Thankfully, our preparations were unnecessary and another year of breathing room was welcome — and needed — to aid recovery efforts.

The quiet hurricane season enabled many of those directly affected by Katrina to start rebuilding their homes and lives. Everywhere

you look you see signs of recovery. Debris no longer piles up along the streets. Destroyed buildings have been razed. In many areas, new construction for homes and businesses is well under way.

Returning this area to its former southern charm is going to take still more time, but with hard work and more storm-free hurricane seasons, it will happen.

On Beach Boulevard, I drive by miles and miles of empty lots. However, surrounded by so much emptiness, I also see a brand-new, sparkling, colorful playground volunteers built for the children in the area. Such volunteers have given hundreds of hours to the cause of revitalizing the coast.

For me, that playground represents the spirit of the Gulf Coast and the people who live here. Despite the devastation, we look to the future and work towards making it better, one day at a time and one project at a time.

So, the end of the 2006 hurricane season gives us another six months to restore and rebuild. That's a great reason to celebrate and give thanks.

ACTION LINE ... 377-4357

By Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso

81st Training Wing commander

First, try to work concerns through the proper chain of command. When you've exhausted this recourse, turn to the commander's action line for assistance.

We welcome any suggestions to help make this a more valuable and useful tool. You may call the commander's action line at 377-4357, write to Commander's Action Line, 81 TRW/PA, Keesler AFB, MS 39534-2603, e-mail 81 TRW Commander's Action Line (on-base) or commanders.line@keesler.af.mil (off-base). For a personal response, include your name, address and phone number.

Items of general interest may appear in this column.

For your convenience, below is a list of key customer service phone numbers at Keesler:

Base locator — 377-2890
Base operator — 377-1110
Base taxi (official use) — 377-2430
Career assistance adviser — 377-3697
Central medical appointments — 1-800-700-8603
Child development center — 377-2211
Civil engineering — 377-5561
Civilian personnel — 377-2268
Military personnel flight — 377-2276
Keesler Federal Credit Union — 385-5500
Emergencies — 911
Family campground — 594-0543
Airmen and family readiness center — 377-2179
Finance — 377-4212
81st Communications Squadron help desk — 377-0066
Housing — 377-9741
Identification cards — 377-3203
Inspector general — 377-3010
Legal assistance — 377-3510

Library — 377-2181
Lodging (reservations) — 377-9986
Medical center information — 377-6550
Military equal opportunity — 377-2759
Military pay — 377-7272
Pass and registration — 377-3893
Pharmacy (refill call-in) — 377-6360
Satellite pharmacy — 377-9791
Public affairs — 377-2783
Red Cross — 377-3030
Sexual assault prevention and response team — 377-8635
Law enforcement desk — 377-3040
Shoppette, Class Six — 432-2367
Telephone trouble — 377-2130
Traffic management (outbound) — 377-2446
Traffic management (inbound) — 377-7813
Visitor center — 377-2595
Youth center — 377-4116

Save us from soakings

Comment — I entered Keesler during a recent strong thunderstorm and, as usual, went to present my identification card.

Both lanes were open and the gate guards were very professional and polite considering the weather conditions. When I rolled down my window, quite a bit of water entered my vehicle, which I understand is beyond anyone's control. But I wondered why we don't have overhead protection at the gates like you see at many other bases. I know money is tight, but it seems like this would be money well spent.

Response — Your observation is a good one and we agree.

We've developed a plan to provide protection from storms and shade for our gate sentries. However, there hasn't been sufficient funding to get this work done.

We remain hopeful we'll eventually secure funding for this worthy project to provide weather protection at the gates.

Drinking + driving
= deadly duo.

KEESLER NEWS

No. 1 in Air Force,
2004, 1997.

No. 1 in AETC,
2004, 1998, 1996;

No. 2, 2003, 2001,
1999, 1997, 1991;

No. 3, 2005, 2002,
1995.

81st Training Wing commander

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If you've had too much to drink,
call Airmen Against Drunk Driving,
377-7283,

10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Thursdays
before dawn Fridays,
working Fridays and Saturdays.

Keesler's 2006 safety goals

Make safety ...

a core value,

a best business practice,
a competitive and asymmetric
advantage.

Make every employee ...
feel safe at work and home.



U.S. AIR FORCE
EagleEyes
WATCH.REPORT.PROTECT.



To start, stop,
increase or decrease
Keesler News delivery,
or for display racks,
facility managers call
377-4130.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION



Photo by Senior Airman Josh Moshier

Airman Matias, right, scans the flightline at Balad. He trained as an air traffic controller at Keesler in 2003.

Award-winning controller acquired skills at Keesler

332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs
And Keesler News staff

When the Air Traffic Control Association announced its annual air traffic control awards earlier this month, an airmen at Balad Air Base, Iraq's own was acknowledged.

Senior Airman Joshua Matias, 332nd Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron air traffic control apprentice, was named the 2006 ATCA Lingiam Odems Memorial Award winner.

Airman Matias trained at Keesler with the 334th Training Squadron in 2003. He said that prepared him for his duties in his career field.

"The training was great," he said. "The instructors made it a big deal to explain the difference between classroom tech. school training and actual Air Force controlling.

"Without the basic foundation training provided at Keesler, I believe it would be difficult to turn out high-quality air traffic controllers," Airman Matias added.

The ATCA Lingiam Odems Memorial Award is presented to a military or civilian air traffic control specialist who in the previous year performed in an exemplary or extraordinary manner in support of military air traffic control facilities.

Airman Matias is in his second deployment

to Balad. He was first deployed there from May through September 2005.

"I have been fortunate enough to have great leadership thus far in my career," said Airman Matias. "Without their expertise, the award wouldn't have been possible."

"He's an outstanding controller and Airman," said Senior Master Sgt. Garth Peterson, 332nd EOSS control tower chief controller. "When we found out he won the award, we were ecstatic. Part of him winning was based on work he did right here."

While proud to have been recognized on a national level, Airman Matias remains focused on the business at hand.

"The recognition is nice," he said, "but I (gain fulfillment) knowing that at the end of the day, I contributed directly to the mission. Whether that means getting a fighter up in the air to drop bombs or bringing a cargo plane in with supplies, I know I had a part in that."

The 21-year-old Airman from Milwaukee, Wis., said, "The Air Force has been great to me thus far. I just recently re-enlisted for five more years."

Senior Airman Josh Moshier, 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs, and 2nd Lt. Nick Plante, Keesler News staff, contributed to this report.

Education opportunity for 10 Air Force NCOs available through AFIT

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Air Force Institute of Technology officials are offering nine non-commissioned officers the opportunity to pursue an advanced science, engineering or management degree at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Additionally, one NCO is offered the opportunity to earn a master's degree in economic crime from an AFIT-sponsored civilian institution.

Ten NCOs from around the Air Force are selected in early 2007 to attend the Enlisted-to-AFIT program. The program is designed to provide commanders with a diverse and renewable source of highly proficient and educated career NCOs, according to officials. Nominations are due to the Air Force Personnel Center here by Jan. 20.

People interested in applying for the 18-month program must be at least technical sergeants with a minimum of eight years time in service, 24 months time on station and

have three years retainability upon graduation. They must have completed the appropriate skill-level upgrade and resident professional military education schooling for their rank, officials said.

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

Besides academic transcripts, applicants have to provide test scores from either the Graduate Record Examination or Graduate Management Admission Test, depending upon the specific AFIT degree-program requirements.

AFIT is the Air Force's graduate school of engineering and management and its institution for technical professional continuing education. Since residence degrees were first granted in 1956, more than 15,000 graduate and 300 doctorate of philosophy degrees have been awarded.

Prospective students can review program requirements and nomination procedures on the Enlisted to AFIT Web site, <http://www.afit.edu>.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

CCAF online

Visit the Air Force Virtual Education Center, <https://www.my.af.mil/afvecprod>, to create MyAFVEC accounts to access online customer service tools.

With the tools, people can request Community College of the Air Force transcripts, track receipt of civilian transcripts, view degree progress reports and check if a course counts toward a CCAF degree.

Parking lot closure

The parking lot adjacent to the Keesler NCO Academy is scheduled to be closed 7:15-10:45 a.m. Wednesday for drill evaluations.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Rosetta Lee, 377-2740.

Hap Arnold grants

March 9 is the deadline to apply for the Air Force Aid Society's Gen. Henry H. "Hap" Arnold grant program for undergraduate studies.

The \$2,000 grants are provided to selected children of active duty, Title 10 Air National Guard members and reservists on extended active duty, Title 32 guard members performing full-time active duty, retired, retired Reservists with at least 20 qualifying years of service, and deceased Air Force members.

Spouses of active-duty members and Title 10 Guard and Reserve members on extended active duty; and survivors of deceased members are eligible.

For more information, visit the airman and family readi-

ness flight in old Cody Hall, visit the AFAS Web site at <http://www.afas.org> or call 377-2179.

JROTC openings

Air Force Junior ROTC positions are available to retired or soon-to-be retired officers and noncommissioned officers.

Call 1-866-235-7682, ext. 35275 or 35300, or DSN 493-5275 or 5300.

Physical therapy

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Air Force officials are taking applications for the physical therapy doctoral program which begins Dec. 18, 2007, at the Health Science Center at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Active-duty Airmen with a bachelor's degree or who are in the final semester before receiving a degree that includes program prerequisites and are medically qualified for worldwide duty may apply.

Qualified applicants, call DSN 665-2775 or 1-210-565-2775 for applications.

Tuition aid change

Tuition assistance pays only for reimbursable class fees.

Place the fee amount in the appropriate box of the course information screen at the Air Force Virtual Education Center's site when applying.

For more information, call 377-2323 or 2171.

Civilian tuition aid

College tuition assistance is available for permanent civil

service employees at Keesler.

Courses must be related to the Air Force mission.

For more information, call or visit the education office, 377-2323, Room 212, old Cody Hall.

Supply classes

To schedule a general supply class, call 377-2270.

Scholarship program

Homefront America, Inc., a nonprofit organization, has partnered with the W. Daniel Tate Family and Sara's Hope Foundation to fund a scholarship program for military children.

The American Patriot Freedom Scholarship Award essay contest provides 20 individual \$1,000 scholarships.

For more information, go to <http://www.nmfa.org>.

NEWS AND FEATURES

New chief in charge

Airman 1st Class Sara Johnson, left, 81st Training Wing administrative staff, goes over inprocessing paperwork with Chief Master Sgt. Ronald Owens, the wing's new command chief. He replaces Chief Master Sgt. Aliquippa Allen, who retired. He comes to Keesler from Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., where he was the 437th Mission Support Group's superintendent. He's served in squadron to major command positions and was deployed to Iraq as chief enlisted manager of the 447th Air Expeditionary Group at Baghdad International Airport.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



Flu vaccinations begin

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Flu vaccinations are under way at Keesler. Keesler Medical Center began administering flu vaccinations Nov. 20, four days after the flu vaccine arrived.

The immunization clinic on the medical center's first floor is vaccinating active-duty members and the enrolled high-risk population first. Medical staff members also have been going around Keesler to administer flu vaccinations to active-duty members.

The general high-risk population started receiving flu vaccine Nov. 28. Vaccination of the remaining population begins Friday.

Influenza epidemics in the United States commonly occur during winter months. The virus can cause illness among all ages, according to Tech. Sgt. Loretta Scott, noncommissioned officer in charge of the immunization clinic.

"Certain individuals are at higher risk for illness, and vaccination is the primary method of protection against flu and associated complications," she said.

Annual vaccination is recommended for certain high-risk groups — ages 65 years and older; adults or children with chronic medical disorders such as asthma and diabetes; children ages 6-59 months, regardless of medical risk; household contacts and out-of-home caretakers of infants up to 35 months; ages 6 months-18 years on long-term aspirin therapy; those highly susceptible to disease; pregnant women; household members, including children, of persons in high-risk groups; and health care workers.

Shots to go

81st Medical Group

Mobile flu vaccination teams from Keesler Medical Center are scheduled to visit the following units:

81st Comptroller Squadron — 7 a.m. today.

Fire department — 7 a.m. Monday.

81st Mission Support Squadron — 1 p.m. Monday.

81st Training Support Squadron — 3 p.m. Wednesday.

81st Supply and Transportation squadrons — 8 a.m. Dec. 18.

The mobile teams are giving flu shots to active-duty members only on these visits.

Mobile teams previously visited Army employees, 85th Engineering Installation Squadron, 81st Training Wing headquarters, 2nd Air Force, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron and 81st Security Forces Squadron.

Flu mist, which is administered nasally, is being given to healthy 5-49-year-olds with no pre-existing medical conditions. Since it's produced using live flu virus, there are limitations on who can receive the mist. For more information, refer to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site, <http://www.cdc.gov/>.

This year's flu vaccination program is expected to continue into early February.

For more information, call the immunization clinic, 377-6543.

IN THE NEWS

Medical appointments change

81st Medical Group

New hours for appointment services for Keesler Medical Center are 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays, with 5-6 a.m. for military only. Appointment services are closed weekends and federal holidays.

Retirement board deadline

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — To preclude Selective Early Retirement Board consideration, SERB-eligible officers must submit retirement applications by Dec. 15.

The 2007A board convenes Jan. 8 at the Air Force Personnel Center. Officers must submit their applications by Dec. 15 to ensure approval by the Jan. 1 deadline. The requested retirement date must be on or before Sept. 1, 2007.

For more information, visit the personnel center's SERB Web site or call the Air Force Contact Center, 1-800-616-3775.

Flight safety record

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Fiscal 2006 was the safest year in aviation in Air Force history, with 19 major aviation mishaps, eight destroyed aircraft and one aviation fatality.

The year also marked the lowest number of major aircraft accidents and fatalities within the Defense Department.

Come blow your horn

Air Force Services Agency

SAN ANTONIO — Tops In Blue has immediate vacancies for active-duty trumpet, trombone and saxophone players.

The 2007 Tops In Blue tour starts in late January and lasts through January 2008.

For more information, call 1-210-652-6566.

Family days vs. duty days

Dec. 26 and Jan. 2 are Air Education and Training Command "family days."

Dec. 29, a compressed work schedule day at Keesler, is a duty day for military members. Air Force Instruction 36-3003 limits consecutive non-duty days to four days.

Dec. 29 remains a CWS day for civilian employees.

Customer service organizations such as personnel offices, finance and Keesler Medical Center clinics are closed Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

End-of-year Keesler News

By contract, the Keesler News doesn't publish during the weeks of the Christmas and New Year's federal holidays.

The last issue of the base newspaper for 2006 is Dec. 21. The first issue of 2007 is Jan. 11. The deadline for submissions to the Jan. 11 issue is noon Jan. 8.

The Keesler News office is closed Dec. 25, Christmas Day, and Jan. 1, New Year's Day.

Off-limits establishments

Off-limits establishments for military members are the Blue Note Lounge, Boulevard Nightclub and Henry Beck Park (except during daylight hours or official events) in Biloxi; Carver Village, Bunksmall Apartments and H&H Hideaway in Pascagoula, and Toni's Lounge in Moss Point.

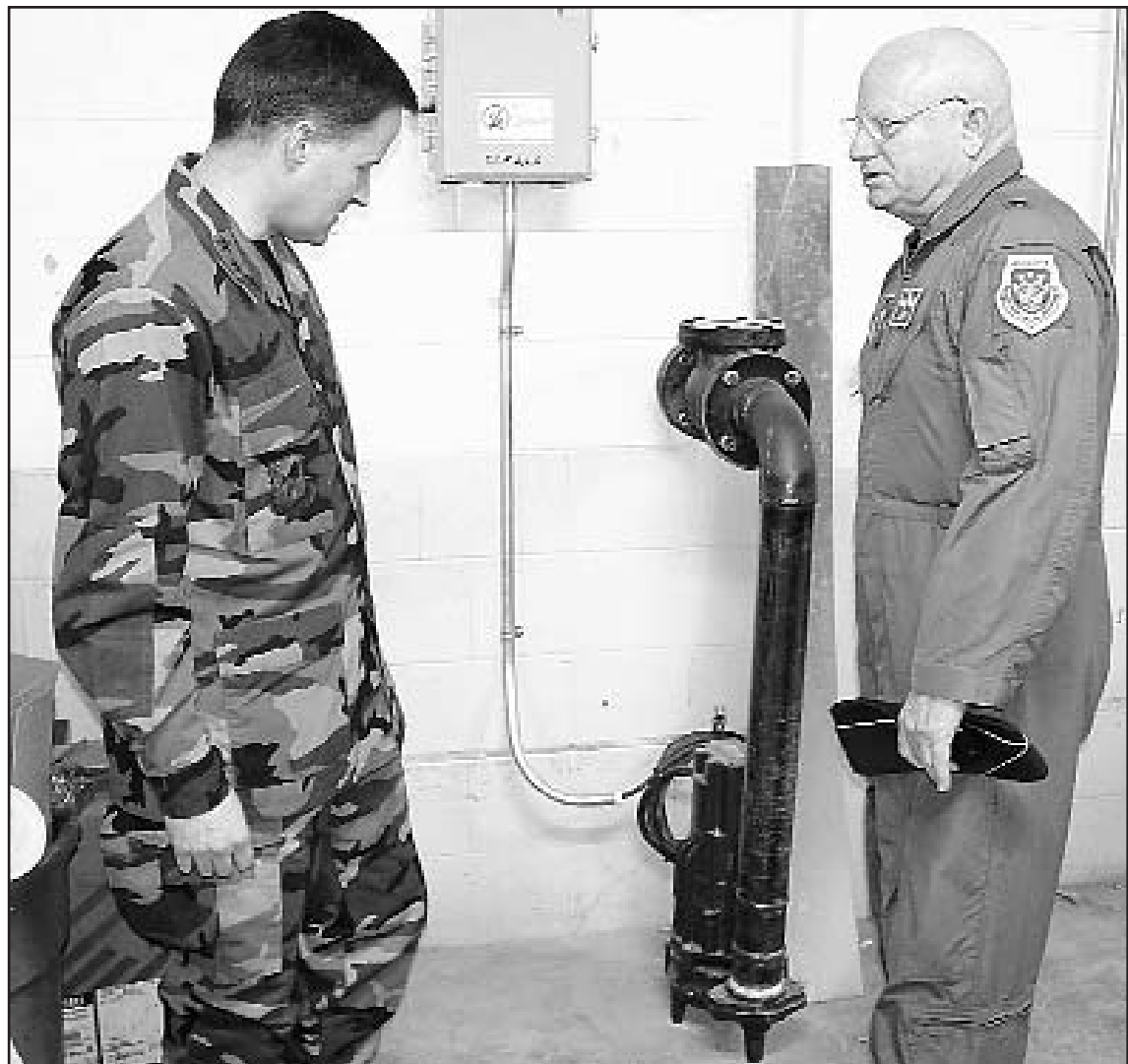


Photo by Steve Pivnick

General Lord, left, is shown a sump pump installed in Keesler Medical Center's generator room by Brig. Gen. (Dr.) James Dougherty, 81st Medical Group commander. General Lord was the 81st Training Wing commander when Hurricane Katrina struck Keesler Aug. 29, 2005. Several sump pumps have been installed in critical areas of the medical center basement as part of flood mitigation efforts to prevent a recurrence of damage similar to what Katrina inflicted on the facility.

Lord,

from Page 1

His days at Keesler "also reinforced to me that the important work of the Air Force occurs at the wing level. At the Pentagon, you can get used to arguing about manpower and policy and all the other stuff and forget that our job is to support the people in the field with all of our resources and manpower."

To help make that happen, General Lord had everyone in his organization at the Pentagon print and put in their cubicles the question, "What have I done for the field today?"

"Having come from Keesler sensitized me to be focused on providing help to the wings, where the real heavy lifting in the Air Force gets done," he added.

General Lord's experiences in Hurricane Katrina's aftermath gave him many insights to share when he teaches lessons at the Air Force's course for wing commanders.

"I remember going down to the television station with (Lt. Col. Claudia Foss, the wing's public affairs director) and waiting for our

opportunity to get our news out to the community when all of our communication channels were down," he recalled. "In a crisis like that, you have to do whatever it takes to get the job done."

Two of General Lord's primary goals when he commanded the 81st TRW were training modernization and infrastructure upgrades. In spite of tighter budgets and personnel cuts, he doesn't see major impacts in the immediate future for Keesler because of what he called "the Katrina effect," the steady flow of recovery resources to the base.

"However, the Air Force is getting much smaller, and the bigger impact will probably come with permanent party manning reductions, both for military and civilian employees," General Lord pointed out.

"I think the bigger impact for Keesler will come through base operating support, not so much in the training area," he continued. "The Air Force is reducing the active-duty force by 40,000 — if one out of every three people isn't here next summer, which I think is likely to be the case, that may roll over to training as a secondary effect. When you throw in A-76 and other things that are going on, that's where I think Keesler will feel the effect."

PERSONNEL NOTES

Editor's note: This column is a service of the Keesler News. Contributors include the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, and the 81st Mission Support Squadron's military and civilian personnel flights.

Foreign language survey

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley recently approved a survey to identify the foreign language capability inherent in the Air Force.

The purpose of the online survey is to allow Air Force officials to get a better understanding of the foreign language skills already in the force, so they can better determine the language skills that must be developed for tomorrow's operational missions.

General Moseley has made completion of the survey mandatory for all enlisted members and for officers in the grades lieutenant colonel and below. The survey presents Airmen with a list of languages. They're asked to identify languages in which they have skills, and to what degree they possess those skills.

If an Airman demonstrates sufficient skill in a language of strategic value to the Air Force, he may be able to qualify for foreign language proficiency pay. Sufficient skill in a single language can raise an Airman's pay by as much as \$500 per month. Airmen with skills in multiple strategic languages can earn as much as \$1,000 per month.

Airmen should contact their military personnel flight testing office to sign up to take a defense language proficiency test if they want to see if they're eligible for FLPP.

Each Airman receives a link to the survey via e-mail. Survey officials encourage the recipient to access the survey using the link in the e-mail. If for some reason an Airman doesn't receive a link, he may access the survey at this generic restricted Air Force Survey Web site.

Civilian career information

Air Force civilians can access the virtual Civilian Career Brief through the AFPC secure Web site, <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afpcsecure/default.asp>.

Once on the AFPC secure Web site, select "Civ Career Brief" from the button menu.

New CCB users need to establish an account.

Transforming travel processing

81st Comptroller Squadron

The Defense Travel System is an electronic travel order and settlement voucher producing system that's transforming the Defense Department's current processes into a single, streamlined, paperless system.

With DTS, travelers can input travel authorizations, review and pick available flights, make hotel and rental car reservations, electronically fill out travel vouchers, pay Government Travel Card accounts and receive direct deposit reimbursements in about one week.

For more information or training needs, call your unit DTS representative or visit <http://www.dtstravelcenter.dod.mil/>.

OneSource for information

Military OneSource provides information and resources on a variety of issues ranging from everyday concerns to deployment and reintegration.

The service is funded by the Department of Defense and is available to active duty, Guard and Reserve Airmen and their family members around the clock and 365 days a year.

To access Military OneSource, visit <http://www.militaryonesource.com> or call 1-800-707-5784.

Life insurance companies pay for improper practices

By Elaine Wilson
American Forces Press Service

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Life insurance companies are being held accountable for their improper sales practices to military members.

Four companies in the past three months have agreed to a multi-state settlement agreement after Texas Department of Insurance investigators uncovered a pattern of deception to young troops.

Under the agreements, the companies refund more than \$70 million to more than 93,000 consumers, including about 71,000 service members, according to Texas Department of Insurance news releases.

The first settlement, reached Aug. 3, came after a 20-month investigation by Texas and Georgia, together with the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, into the sales practices of three Waco, Texas-based companies: American-Amicable Life Insurance Company of Texas, Pioneer American Insurance Company and Pioneer Security Life Insurance Company.

State regulators and federal agencies claim the companies “targeted young recruits and misled them into believing they were buying an investment product.” The service members were actually purchasing an expensive term-life product that was coupled with a side fund and called the “Wealth

Builder” or “Horizon Life,” according to the release.

The second settlement, reached Oct. 17, involves the Boston Mutual Life Insurance Company.

In 2004, TDI investigators learned several Boston Mutual agents were soliciting and selling life insurance to low-ranking Soldiers in the Fort Hood, Texas, area by misrepresenting the insurance as a savings or investment plan, said Jim Hurley, TDI spokesman.

The activity led to the multi-state examination of the company’s sales to military members.

Boston Mutual Life Insurance Company is refunding a total of \$427,529.57 to 1,784 military members who bought life insurance poli-

cies between Jan. 1, 2002, and April 30, 2005.

“Service members need to be skeptical and shop around if interested in purchasing life insurance,” said Tim Haight, acting chief of the client services division at the Fort Sam Houston Legal Assistance Office. “Educate yourself. The best place to start when considering investments or additional insurance is to get sound advice from a certified financial planner.”

The companies are notifying service members with current or lapsed policies affected by the agreements, Mr. Hurley said. Consumers who feel they’re affected but haven’t received notification, call the companies’ consumer service center, 1-800-736-7311.

My EDP

Air Force Portal simplifies access to enlisted career data

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

The career development path for enlisted members has fewer twists and turns now, thanks to a new self-service tool accessible through Air Force Portal.

My EDP provides a single access point for individual enlisted development plans covering education, training, experience and leadership information, according to Master Sgt. Kelle Turner, career assistance adviser for the 81st Training Wing.

Time-saving tool

“My EDP is airman-centric, with all training, education, leadership, experience, mentoring and career counseling information in one spot,” Sergeant Turner explained. “This is what we’ve been asking for, and we’re happy to have it.”

“The program, a strategic component of the Air Force’s ‘continuum of learning,’ is tailored to individual needs based on an Airman’s rank, career field and service component,” she added.

My EDP combines multiple data sources through a series of interface agreements which allow seamless capabilities with reduced sign-on requirements.

Sharper career focus

“This is a more deliberate, centralized and focused approach to career development,” Sergeant Turner said. “My EDP eliminates the need to log in to a variety of systems to search for information, freeing up more time for Airmen to concentrate on their primary duties.”

Air Force Portal’s “learning” page has been redesigned and renamed “force development and learning.”

Creating a new account is simple — the Airman clicks on

the “life and career” tab, then the “force development and learning” tab. The Airman enters his Social Security number twice and enters his e-mail address to complete the process.

Standardized medium

Air Staff, career field managers and other content providers can upload documents, add links and edit content to deliver unique messages for each Air Force specialty code.

Career field managers can reach out to the field through this standardized medium for announcements, events, document sharing and specific guidance for key areas.

The site also includes forums to discuss assignments, off-duty educational opportunities, professional military education, training, supervising, mentoring and other topics.

Journal capabilities

Airmen are constantly learning in the workplace or home, not just through formal education and training. This is one example of how My EDP’s journal capabilities can be a big benefit to Airmen, Sergeant Turner pointed out.

“The journal is a place where you can record notes about professional development or document daily accomplishments, volunteer involvement, even a compliment from a supervisor for a job well done,” she stated. “You can record your accomplishments weekly so your supervisor will have a full view when it’s time for (enlisted performance reports) or quarterly and annual awards.”

Similar platforms are available on the portal for active-duty officers and civilians. The site is expected to be expanded for the Air National Guard and Reserve in the future.

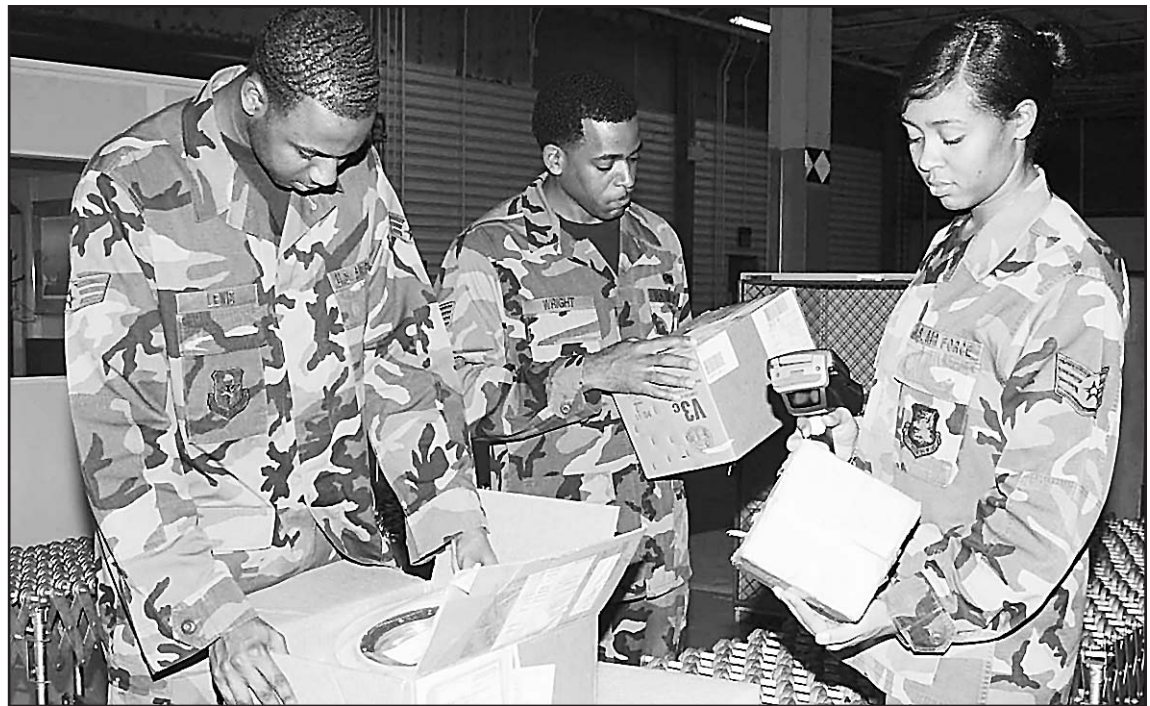


Photo by Kemberly Groue

From left, Senior Airman Charles Lewis and Staff Sgts. Tamorrace Wright and Toyshaline Young, 81st Supply Squadron, check in mission-capable parts inside their warehouse.

Suppliers make history keeping C-130Js flying

By 2nd Lt. Nick Plante

Keesler News staff

The 81st Supply Squadron made Keesler logistical history Nov. 27 when all 18 of the 403rd Wing's C-130J aircraft and other reportable systems attached to them, remained fully mission capable for five consecutive days.

Supply provided the parts for mission-capable reportable aircraft and support equipment without initiating a MICAP parts request, enhancing mission effectiveness.

Keeping aircraft in FMC status without a MICAP request rarely happens and usually means very reliable aircraft, said Gene Cousin, 81st SUPS technician. The squadron accomplished that for one day Sept. 13.

"Keeping the aircraft, its communication, support equipment and training equipment all FMC without a MICAP is very rare," he said. More so, doing it for five days signifies attention to detail and expertise.

The Air Force designates aircraft and other equipment as MICAP reportable, meaning if the aircraft or equipment breaks down and is grounded the demand for the needed parts are critical. Reportable equipment the 81st SUPS manages parts for include the C-130J aircraft, certain aircraft support equipment, communications equipment and training equipment.

Before initiating a MICAP request, the 81st SUPS checks its warehouse shelves to see if the part is in stock. If it's not, supply personnel start the MICAP process.

For a five-day period, Keesler was able to stock and provide needed parts to avoid

MICAP reportable requests.

"Stock controllers and transportation are key to the supply process," said Master Sgt. Chad Jacob, 81st SUPS equipment management element. "Our requisitioning program is automatic. Each time a part is used, the system requisitions a replacement. Our stock controllers have been diligent in calling depot asset managers to get replacement assets on the shelf."

The MICAP process involves a search at other locations that may have the needed part. Once the part is found, it's expedited to the requested location. Time is critical because the grounded aircraft or equipment has a mission to complete. Normally, a MICAP request is resolved within 24 to 36 hours, but this is still time taken from the mission.

Mr. Cousin said focus on critical areas has helped the squadron improve and succeed.

"In the past months, we've reviewed and increased stock levels where needed and put our emphasis on items that are the main drivers in grounding an aircraft," he said.

He said the process has shown about a 20-percent improvement in stock effectiveness in the past year.

Supply leaders attribute the continued success to the efforts of the entire squadron.

"This achievement is a coordinated effort from the entire squadron, and it was greatly aided by the stock control element personnel working to identify and prevent potential grounding situations from developing," said Tech. Sgt. Jadirra Walls, 81st SUPS customer service.

HOLIDAY NOTES

Party in the Park

Today is the 81st Training Wing's Holiday Party in the Park at the marina.

At 3:30 p.m. there's a live manger scene and Christmas village, with entertainment provided from 3:45-4:45 and children's activities and an arts and crafts project at 4.

The annual Christmas tree lighting is at 6 p.m., followed by Santa's arrival at 6:15 to visit with Keesler kids.

Free hot dogs, chili, chicken wings, cheese trays, vegetable platters, cider, hot chocolate and cookies are provided.

Holiday grams

Orders for holiday candy grams are taken by Top III members through Wednesday for delivery Dec. 14.

Candy grams can be sent to anyone at Keesler for \$2.

For more information or to place an order, contact your unit representative or call Tech. Sgt. Meoyskie Porter, 377-9481.

Toys for Tots

Donations are collected until Tuesday to provide gifts through Toys for Tots.

Boxes are set up in various buildings across the base for new unwrapped toys for children up to 12 years old.

There's no price limit, but groups can join together to purchase more costly items such as wagons and bicycles.

For more information, call Cheryl Moore, 209-7052.

Youth gift camp

A youth gift camp is 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the arts and crafts center.

The \$25 fee covers lunch and supplies for three gifts.

For more information, call 377-2821.

Christmas story time

Christmas story time for ages 2-5 is 10 a.m. Wednesday at McBride Library.

For more information, call 377-2181.

Bellingrath Gardens

Wednesday is the deadline to sign up at the ticket and trip office in Vandenberg Community Center for a trip to Bellingrath Gardens in Alabama, 4-7 p.m. Dec. 22.

The \$33 fee covers trans-

Holiday remembrance



Photo by Adam Bond

Staff Sgts. Sandra Homer, left, 81st Contracting Squadron, and Tina Nadbalek, 332nd Training Squadron, decorate a Christmas tree at the Biloxi Veterans Affairs Medical Center Sunday. The visit was a part of Operation Not Forgotten, a monthly volunteer effort by Magnolia Chapter 652 of the Air Force Sergeants Association to visit patients at the center to show appreciation for their military service. For more information about AFSA or to volunteer for the program, visit <http://www.afsa652.org>.

portation and admission.

For more information, call 377-3818.

Holiday camp

Wednesday is the deadline to register for the youth center's holiday camp, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 18-22 for ages 6-12.

The registration fee is \$10 per child.

For more information, call 377-4116.

Day room decorating

A squadron day room decorating contest is planned for permanent party and nonprior service dormitory residents.

To enter, call 377-3308 by Dec. 14.

Santa calling

To have your child receive a personal call from Santa

Dec. 20-23, call the youth center, 377-4116, by Dec. 16.

Youth center party

The youth center's free holiday celebration is 2-5 p.m. Dec. 16 for ages 6 and older.

For more information, call 377-4116.

Gift wrapping

Free gift wrapping for nonprior service students is noon to 5 p.m. Dec. 17 at Vandenberg Community Center, with a four-gift limit per person.

For more information, call 377-5576 or 4355.

Deployed families party

A party for families of deployed military members is 6-8 p.m. Dec. 19 at the youth center.

For more information, call

Tech. Sgt. Ernesto Alvendia, 377-2593 or 2179.

Tree trimming

The Christmas tree at Vandenberg Community Center is being decorated 5-9 p.m. Dec. 21.

Free refreshments, movies and caroling are planned.

Holiday games

Holiday games are planned for Dec. 25-30 at Vandenberg Community Center for students who remain at Keesler during the holidays.

For more information, call 377-5576 or 377-4355.

Football party

A DirecTV football party for nonprior service students with pizza and popcorn is 11 a.m. Dec. 31 at Vandenberg Community Center.

For more information, call 377-5576 or 4355.

New Year's Eve

Two New Year's Eve parties are planned at base facilities.

At Gaude Lanes, festivities are planned from 8 p.m. Dec. 31 to 2 a.m. Jan. 1 for ages 8 and older. Ages 13 and younger must be accompanied by a parent.

This event isn't just for bowlers — everyone's invited. Bowling, games, hors d'oeuvres, midnight toast and breakfast, party favors and non-alcoholic beverages are provided. Alcoholic beverages are sold separately.

The reservation deadline is Dec. 22, and a minimum of 50 people is needed.

For prices, call 377-2817.

At Vandenberg Community Center, the party is from 6 p.m. Dec. 31 to 1 a.m. Jan. 1. The fee is \$3 per person for party favors and food.

For more information, call 377-5576 or 4355.

Holiday rentals, shipping

Force One Rental provides United Parcel Service shipping and holiday rentals such as food servers, turkey fryers, tables, chairs and tents.

To reserve items or for more information, call 436-6714.

The store, located in Building 4818, is open 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays.

Holiday decorations can harbor fire hazards

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Decorating your home is a way to set the stage for the holiday season. But keep in mind those magical twinkling lights are electrical products that can increase the possibility of fire in the home.

To prevent fires from Christmas trees and decorations:

Keep live trees watered.

Don't let the tree block access to doors or windows in the event of fire.

Set up trees away from drapes and from heat sources such as fireplaces, televisions or heaters.

Remove trees from the house as soon as possible after Christmas.

Don't allow cotton batten, discarded gift wrappings or other combustible materials under the tree.

Metallic trees conduct electricity and should be illuminated with floodlights, not strings of lights.

Check light strings for worn insulation, broken plugs and loose bulb sockets. Replace defective strings.

Use materials that are non-combustible or flame resistant and retardant.

Keep candles away from decorations and Christmas trees.

Use only electrical decorations that have an independent testing lab label, and follow manufacturer's guidelines.

Don't overload extension cords.

Don't hang lights with nails or clips that damage wiring.

Keep children and pets away from light cords and electrical decorations.

Turn off lights and decorations before leaving the house or going to bed.

In base housing, exterior lights must be turned off between midnight and 5 a.m.

Christmas decorations are authorized in base housing from the day after Thanksgiving through Jan. 6.

Holiday shopping — avoiding pitfalls of debt

By Maj. Dani Johnson

18th Wing Public Affairs

KADENA Air Base, Japan — For some the idea of holiday shopping brings excitement and joy. For others it's the bane of their existence. However, there's one thing no one looks forward to — the after-holiday debt.

According to the National Retail Federation, the average shopper forks over approximately \$790 during holiday buying sprees. In 2005, holiday sales were around \$435.6 billion and this year it is expected to raise 5 percent to \$457.4 billion.

"It's important for everyone to have a holiday shopping list and budget," said Vonda Ware, lead work life consultant at the airman and family readiness center here. "Another pitfall is to use credit cards with no plan for paying it off immediately."

Overspending is prevalent through the holidays, Ms. Ware said. To avoid the pitfalls, she recom-

mends thinking outside of the box and getting creative with gift giving.

"One year, my family decided not to buy conventional gifts; instead, we made coupons for favors throughout the year like washing my husband's car," she said. "It got the whole family involved and we had a lot of fun."

While it may be too late for this year, prepare for next year by shopping throughout the year. The first thing to do is set up a shopping list and a budget. Decide how much you can afford to spend on each person. Remember hidden costs such as mailing and wrapping fees.

"Don't be afraid to ask for help," Ms. Ware said. "There are people at the readiness center who can work with you one-on-one to create a budget and a debt reduction plan."

Some financial institutions have holiday savings plans you can invest in throughout the year. Ms.

Ware doesn't recommend holiday loans because if you don't already have the money, you're just adding another bill to your debt.

Another way many Airmen fall prey to holiday debt is by not paying their government travel card or using their GTC for automatic teller machine withdrawals.

"We see a rise in ATM use during the holiday season," said Sandra Miles, 18th Comptroller Squadron GTC program manager. "Airmen withdraw \$100-\$160, pay a portion of their bill, then pocket the rest."

"Others decide not to pay their GTC balance in full and only pay a portion so they can have more money in their bank account," she added. "It's mandatory to pay your GTC bill in full and it should be done when filing your travel voucher."

Both base level and major command officials monitor GTC card use. Any unusual activity is highlighted and the Airman's commander is informed.

New AFI:

Airmen more responsible for personal accountability

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — A new Air Force Instruction places more responsibility for personnel accountability on the shoulders of individual Airmen.

AFI 10-218, Personnel Accountability in Conjunction With Natural Disasters or National Emergencies, published Oct. 31 details how an Airman should go about contacting his leadership if forced to evacuate after a natural disaster or terrorist event.

In the wake of a natural disaster, a terrorist attack or any event that could separate an Airman from his unit, an Airman is required to use “all mechanisms available” to communicate his whereabouts to his unit control center or base command post.

If it isn’t possible to contact a unit by telephone, an Airman must contact Headquarters Air Force Personnel Center, 1-800-435-9941, to report his whereabouts. Another option for an Airman is to register his location at the National Disaster Registry Web Application, <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil>.

The new instruction also requires each Airman to maintain “realistic and actionable” plans that detail what actions he’ll take before, during and after a disaster or crisis. The plans

must take into account both the military member and his dependants, and should be filed with an Airman’s unit, said Maj. Timothy McIsaac, Air Force Personnel Readiness.

“After an earthquake, a hurricane or a terrorist attack, for instance, there may not be an opportunity to let your commander know where you plan to go,” Major McIsaac said. “The time to plan is beforehand, and those plans need to be on file.”

A unit commander may now require every Airman to keep a plan for him and his family on file, the same as is done with an emergency locator card, Major McIsaac said. Those plans could be as simple as listing the names and telephone numbers of family members, friends or others a member may turn to in an emergency.

In addition to spelling out the responsibilities of individual active-duty Airmen in the wake of a disaster or crisis, the AFI also outlines the responsibilities of Air National Guardsmen, Air Force reservists and civilians, and chain-of-command members all the way from the wing commander down to individual Airmen.

AFI 10-218 can be found online at <http://www.e-publishing.af.mil/pubfiles/af/10/afi10-218/afi10-218.pdf>.

TSP board increases limit on contributions by \$500

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board has announced a \$500 increase in regular Thrift Savings Plan contributions to \$15,500 for 2007 elective deferral maximum contributions.

Contributions for the catch-up plan remain at the same \$5,000 limit set in 2006.

“TSP is a long-term retirement savings plan which everyone should consider,” said Janet Thomas, a human resources specialist at the Air Force Personnel Center here. “It’s a great supplement to military and civilian retirement plans.”

TSP offers investors the chance for lower taxes each year they contribute, and taxes are deferred until the employ-

ee withdraws the account after retirement.

“Investment money is deposited directly from each paycheck so you never have to think about it. That makes it easy to ‘pay yourself first’ while only investing what you deem appropriate,” said Ms. Thomas.

Catch-up contributions are additional tax-deferred contributions, separate from regular TSP contributions. For those who are eligible, catch-up contributions provide a way for individuals to secure their retirement if they began investing late in life.

To be eligible for catch-up contributions, civilian and military employees must be age 50 or older in the year in which the first deduction from pay occurs, be in a pay status and must be able to certify

they will make (or have made) the maximum “regular” employee contributions of \$15,500 to a TSP or other eligible account by the end of 2007.

The “other” type of eligible account could be a uniformed services TSP account or another eligible employer plan, such as a 401(k). Employees must also not be in the six-month non-contribution period following a financial hardship in-service withdrawal.

Catch-up contributions automatically stop with the last pay date in the calendar year or upon reaching the maximum catch-up dollar limit for the year, whichever comes first. Eligible employees must submit a new election for each year they wish to participate.

Regular TSP contributions stop when an employee’s contributions reach the annual maximum limit and then automatically resume the next calendar year.

Investing in TSP is not limited to stocks. People can choose safer government securities or invest in the Lifecycle Funds.

For more information about TSP, both regular and catch-up, visit the TSP Web site, <http://www.tsp.gov>, and the BEST homepage, <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/best/default.asp?prods3=272&prods2=264&prods1=44> (under Thrift Savings Plan).

The TSP booklet “Summary of the Thrift Savings Plan” is also a good source of information. It’s located on the TSP Web site under civilian or uniformed services TSP Forms and Publications.

KEESLER NOTES

Dental volunteers

The 81st Dental Squadron has openings for volunteers.

Defense Department identification cardholders are preferred.

Volunteers receive a week of training and are required to work 1,000 hours to receive a certificate of completion. They assist in operative dentistry and most specialties, including oral surgery, endodontics and residency.

Hours are 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. working Fridays.

For more information, call 377-4510, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. working Fridays.

Blood drives

To schedule mobile blood drives, call Jill Peterson, 377-9324.

TeamKid

TeamKid, a chapel program for children, meets 4-5:30 p.m. Sundays in the Triangle Chapel Annex.

For more information, call 377-2520.

Honor guard

The Keesler Honor Guard has openings for officers and senior non-commissioned officers to serve on the Brass Team.

Brass Team members supplement the rotational honor guard and perform details in Mississippi and Louisiana.

For more information, call 377-1986 or visit <https://wwwmil.keesler.af.mil/honor/index.htm>.

Mail delivery

Office mail must be picked up and mailed at Room C8, Building 0901, 708 Fisher Street between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday-Thursday and working Fridays.

The deadline for same-day mail and Federal Express is 1:30 p.m.

For more information call 377-4060 or 3292.

Military rental

Force One Rental, 211 Larcher Blvd., Building 4818, offers truck and trailer rentals, package shipping and name tag engraving.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays.

Thrift shop

The thrift shop in the former Chapel One building is open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, with consignments accepted from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays.

For more information, call 377-3217.

PT uniform wear

In organized physical training, any combination of the PT gear is worn as a set and not mixed with civilian clothes.

At other times any combination can be worn with civilian clothes.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Jay McKenzie, 377-1091.

Gate hours

The Meadows Drive Gate is open 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. workdays.

The Judge Sekul Avenue Gate is open 3:30-5:30 p.m. work days for outbound traffic.

The White Avenue and Pass Road gates operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The pedestrian gate to Jeff Davis Elementary School operates only to allow base children to walk to the school.

Fingerprinting process

The 81st Security Forces Squadron no longer accepts walk-ins for fingerprints.

For appointments, call 377-4660 or 5404.

Preschool playgroup

A preschool pals playgroup is offered 9:30-10:30 a.m. Thursdays in Room 100-B of the former Chapel One.

The group is a joint venture of the chapel and the family support center. The hour offers toys, games, music and a chance for parents to visit.

For more information, call Kristy LaBelle, 596-8215.

Playgroup

The preschool playgroup sponsored by family advocacy staff meets 9:30-11 a.m. Tuesdays at the youth center.

For details, call 377-8612.

MEO office

The military equal opportunity office is in Room 239, old Cody Hall.

For more information, call 377-2759.

Audiology open

Audiology and hearing aid services are available at the audiology clinic.

For appointments, call 1-800-700-8603.

New CPO hours

The civilian personnel office now serves customers and returns phone calls from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. work days.

Priority is given to employees with appointments.

To make an appointment for matters related to labor, training and employee management services, call 377-3142, and for staffing and classification matters, call 377-2268.

Patients sought

The pediatric dentistry clinic is looking for patients for the advanced education in general dentistry residency.

Patients should be between 4-10-year-old dependents of active-duty or military retirees and not enrolled in the dental insurance plan. They're required to be available for treatment on Thursday mornings.

For more information or to make a screening appointment, call 376-5164.

Trash, recyclables

Monday and Thursday are garbage pickup days in East and West Falcon Park, with Monday as the recycling day.

Tuesday and Friday are garbage pickup days in Bay Ridge, Shadowlawn and Pinehaven housing areas, with Tuesday as the recycling day.

Items must be at the curb by 6 a.m.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Willie Fairley, 377-5822.

Switchboard issues

The telephone switchboard is a contract operation monitored by the 81st Communication Squadron.

Formal complaints or comments based on operator response time, type of assistance, operator courtesy, accuracy and speed, require a customer complaint record. Forward CCRs to 81CS/SCMP or e-mail to thomas.favalora@keesler.af.mil.

For more information, call 377-4778.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

Lady Dragons come back for first victory of season

By Perry Jenifer

Keesler News editor

Perhaps taking a cue from the past 15 months, the women's varsity basketball team staged its own "Operation Dragon Comeback" on Nov. 29.

With time running out, the Lady Dragons trailed Faulkner State of Mobile, seemingly destined for a fifth straight defeat in a winless season.

Enter their version of Keesler's recovery from Hurricane Katrina.

"Our defense got a couple of key steals that launched the comeback," said Teddy Johnson, assistant coach, of the 58-54 victory in overtime.

A three-pointer by Shell Joseph bought the Lady Dragons the additional period.

In overtime, "Rene McClennon and Keisha Watkins took over on the inside," Johnson said. "Down the stretch, we hit our free throws to seal the game."

Watkins led Keesler in scoring with 25 points. Joseph followed with 19.

Watkins came to the fore again with eight rebounds. McClennon and Rene Sedlak

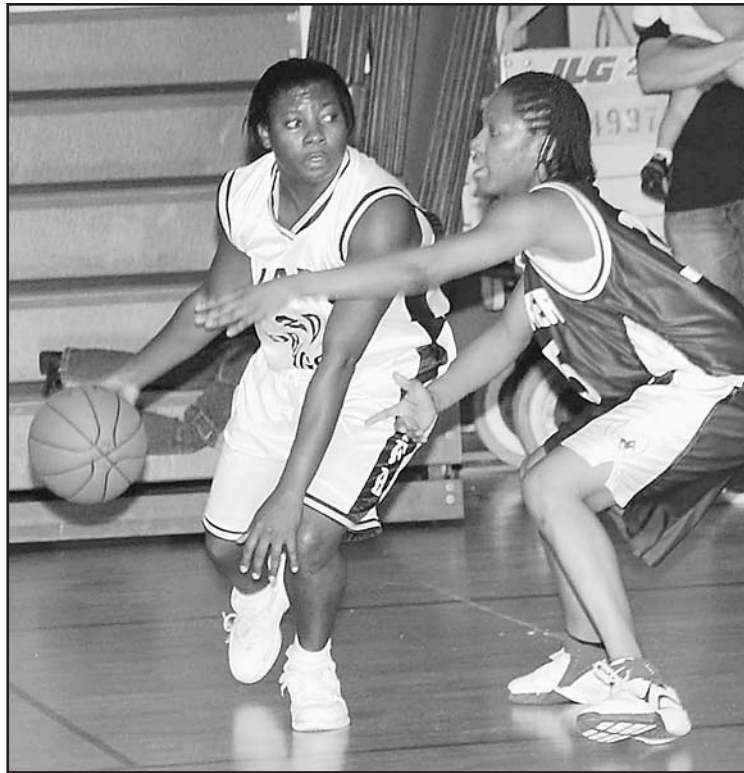


Photo by Kemberly Groue

Joseph, left, drives around Faulkner State's LaToya Brown. Joseph's three-point shot sent the game into overtime.

provided balance on the boards, retrieving seven missed shots each.

Kanesha Webber recorded five assists.

The Lady Dragons are now 1-4 overall, 0-2 in the South-

eastern Military Athletic Conference. They're scheduled to shop for their first conference victories, 2 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. Sunday, against Mayport Naval Air Station, Fla., in Blake Fitness Center.

Lining it up

John Dunn, left, and Greg Wilson, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron, fasten the goal to one of the new backboards installed at Blake Fitness Center Nov. 29. Next up for the facility is a new floor.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



SCORES AND MORE

Basketball

Women’s varsity schedule

Saturday-Sunday — Mayport Naval Air Station, Fla.
Dec. 16-17 — Ft. Benning, Ga.
Jan. 11 — at Faulkner State (Mobile).
Jan. 13-14 — at Moody Air Force Base, Ga.
Jan. 20-21 — Eglin AFB, Fla.
Feb. 10-11 — at Mayport.
Feb. 23-25 — Southeastern Military Athletic Conference tournament at Ft. Benning.
Home games: 2 p.m. Saturdays, 10 a.m. Sundays at Blake Fitness Center. If Blake is unavailable due to floor replacement project, games move to Dragon Fitness Center. In the event of scheduling conflicts at Dragon, some games may be moved off-base.
For more information, call Richard Vincent, head coach, 343-9951, or Teddy Johnson, assistant coach, 376-3057.

Bowling

Gaude Lanes — scheduled to re-open Monday, including 11th Frame Cafe.

Fitness centers

Aerobics — openings for certified instructors. For more information, call 377-8380.
Blake Fitness Center — open 4:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays; 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. non-working Fridays; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.
Dragon Fitness Center — open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. workdays. Basketball court is open. Parent-child fitness room open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays. Parental supervision required. For more information, call 377-2907.
Triangle Fitness Center — open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. compressed work schedule Fridays and weekends; closed holidays. For more information, call 377-3056.
Towel service — at Blake and Dragon fitness centers is discontinued. For more information, call 377-8380 or 7858.
Health and wellness center — 11 a.m. Jan. 5, Crotwell Track, “Walk your way through the holidays” awards ceremony.

Golf

Bay Breeze Golf Course and driving range — open 7 a.m. to dusk daily. No greens fees. Electric carts \$10 for 18 holes, \$5 for nine holes. Pull carts, \$2. Club rental: \$5 for 18 holes, \$3 for nine holes. Driving range opens 7 a.m. daily. Bucket of 30 balls costs \$2.

Golf lessons — \$25 for 30 minutes. For more information, call 377-3832 or 348-7589.
Local course support — St. Andrews, Gulf Hills and Great Southern Club courses offer reciprocal playing privileges to current members of Bay Breeze.
Bay Breeze members are required to show identification to verify their names are on the membership roster. Once their membership is verified, members pay only the golf cart fee for a round of golf.
For more information, call 348-7569.
Air Force Sergeants Association tournament — noon shotgun start, Friday, Sunkist Country Club. Cost: \$40 per person for four-person teams. Prizes and lunch. Proceeds support AFSA Magnolia Chapter. Register by Monday with John Geboy, 377-5807, or Scott Sippel, 377-2337.

Outdoor recreation

Deep sea fishing — reserve a boat for up to six people for \$600, including the captain and tackle. Deposit: \$300. Bring your own refreshments. Fishing license isn’t required.
December fishing tournament — weigh in the largest speckled trout for the month and win \$100 savings bond.
Big buck contest — bring in deer head with most points and win \$100 savings bond.
Christmas psecial — 10 percent discount on fishing equipment Dec. 18-20.
Disk golf — fairway, multi-purpose, putt and approach disks for rent or sale.
Camping package — includes sleeping bags, lanterns, camp stove and tent.
Pontoon boat training — required before rental. For more information, call 377-3160.
Marina park pavilions — to reserve, call 377-3160.
Buddy days — bring a friend fishing and receive 10 percent discount on skiff rental.

Tennis

Clinics and league — beginner/intermediate (2.5-3.0) women’s clinics 9 a.m. Mondays, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Jefferson Davis campus on Debuys Road in Gulfport. League play begins in February. For more information, call Shannon Howard, 239-5827.

Youth center

Classes — taekwondo, 5-5:45 p.m. for ages 3-5 and 6-7 p.m. for ages 6 and older, Mondays and Wednesdays. For members, \$35 per month; for non-members, \$40. For more information, call 377-4116.

DIGEST

GRADUATIONS

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Electronic principles — Airmen Basic Uriah Beagle, Michael Brothwell, Jeremy Calder, Joshua Carter, Thomas Carter, Carl Cushman, Justin Deatherage, Stephen Ellis, Matthew Foster, John Goodhile, Eric Grate, Daylin Heer, Robert Jones, Clayton Kern, Erika Lateer, Dustin Lee, Benjamin Liffrig, Garrett Lotzgesell, Gregory Luedtke, Sarah Lundry, Kyle Mann, Anthony Mercurio, Ashley Newman, Jason Owens, William Pitts, Mitchell Roach, Drew Sermon, Paul Sprague, Allen Taylor, Jeffery Tolentino, Joseph Trindal, Jeremy Turbyfill, Kyle Twidt, Sean Van Horn, Charles Walker, Brian Wheeler, Jacob Wilkens, Nakia Williams and Timothy Wright; Airmen Benjamin Eckman, Darius Hutchison, Christopher Hynes, Theodor Karn, Aaron Knab, Nathaniel Maidel, Richard McClary, Wesley Schairer, Matthew Shea, Stephen Trevizo, Christopher Voigt and Austin Weltha; Airmen 1st Class Lance Browning, Gregg Costin, Jeffrey Doyle, Catherine Garvis, Joseph Gustitos, Logan Hatcher, David Hinkle, Steven Koeber, Steven Kemper, Christopher Larson, Dekovan Lewis, Juan Lopez, Clyde Louchez, Christopher Mannifield, Philip Mayes, Douglas McVicar, Samuel Newhouse, Daniel Nicholson, Tony Morris, Richard Owen, Andrew Pratt, Jose Santana, Shane Sellers, Shawn Shaw, David Stewart, Gregory Thomas, Paul West and Daniel Williams; Senior Airmen Russell Regnier, Dawn Rocker and Eduardo Trelles; Staff Sgts. Roderick Celestine, Shawn Cox, Nicholas Lacasella, Llewellyn Lamar, Jason Lee, Philip Nelson, Vinh Ngo, Brandin Peasley, James Raines, Douglas Sinder and Caleb Trautman; Tech. Sgts. Kenyon Degreene, Anthony Terry and Luis Veras.

334th TRS

Air traffic control operations flight —Airmen Basic James Ashton, Seth Bolz, Nicholas Cooper, Constance Dietrich, Dallon Gines, Michael Jaeger, John Jenkins, Joseph Jones, Christopher Mickleson, Christopher Norton, Makenzie Parker, Mazie Paulino, Kylah Saballa-Olaes, Andrew Schneidt and Samantha Yeagar; Airmen Grant Gardow and Aaron Otero-Bunker; Airmen 1st Class Stephen Boniol, Ryan Carney, Rashad Hudson, Matthew Mitchley and Richard Willingham; Senior Airman David Caldwell; Staff Sgts. James Francis III, Marquese Hayden and Eric Urioste; Capt. Marcel Sirak.

CHAPEL SERVICES

Editor’s note: For more information, call 377-2520.

Roman Catholic

Saturday Mass

Triangle Chapel.....5 p.m.

Sunday Mass

Triangle Chapel9 a.m.

Daily Mass

Triangle Chapel.....11:15 a.m.

Protestant

Sunday worship

Larcher Chapel traditional service.....8:30 a.m.

Triangle Chapel contemporary worship service...10:30 a.m.

Triangle Chapel gospel service.....Noon

Islamic

Building 2003 — prayer five times daily; Salaat ul-Jummah congregational prayer, noon Friday.

For more information, call 377-2520 or 0327.

Latter-Day Saints

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints — student group service, 2 p.m. Sundays, Triangle Chapel. For more information, call 396-5274 or 1-661-747-4738.

Command post apprentice course — Airman 1st Class David Noonan; Senior Airman Adam Burritt; Staff Sgts. Jason Bach, Michael Castleberry, Keith Greene, Shawn Leydig and Lucy Salazar; Tech. Sgts. Nancy Huber, and David Namminga; Master Sgt. Troy Lukens; Senior Master Sgt. Ernest Cajiatu.

335th TRS

Weather training flight — Airmen Basic Zachary Newman, Nathan Norvell, Raymond Rugenstein and Sarah Walkuw; Airmen 1st Class William Cammryn, Michael Moyer and David O'Brien; Senior Airman David Kepple; Tech. Sgts. Steven Bass, Wes Mathis and Jason Neugebauer; Master Sgts. Johnny Baker and Eric Buchanan.

336th TRS

Communications-computer systems training flight — Airman Basic Derrick Patterson; Airmen Jeffery King and Thomas Kurtz; Airman 1st Class David Wright; Staff Sgts. Uy Chhay and Scott Hopper.

Communications and information training flight — Airmen Basic David Maher, Stefanie Marasco, Samuel Matula and Brandy Studstill; Airmen 1st Class James Chrisley, Nicholas Gomez, Eric Jennings, Allison Jorgensen, Charles Landgraf, Amanda Manning, Timothy O’Connor and Faneka Vicks; Senior Airmen Michael Franklin, Jared Friesen, Daniel Turillo and Janice Wilson; Staff Sgts. Steven Burnett and Dennis Maldonado; Rodney Jones.

338th TRS

Radar systems flight — Airmen Benjamin Black, Matthew Ford, Travis Freeman, Stanley Graham, Johnathan Jones, Jason Kirby, Daniel O’Brien, Robert Smith and Robert Wayland; Airmen 1st Class Kent Hadler, Joshua Hankinson, James Lewis and Christopher Whitely; Senior Airman Osvaldo Figueroa-Lopez; Staff Sgt. Gary Gilles.

HOLIDAY HOURS

Christmas, New Year’s Day

Editor’s note: Hours for these base facilities reflect changes in observance of the holiday season. Any exchange facilities not listed are closed.

Keesler News — closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

Commissary — 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec 24; closed Dec. 25; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Jan. 1.

Triangle postal service center — open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 21 through Jan. 2; closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

Inns of Keesler — open 24 hours.

Arts and crafts center — closed Dec. 23-Jan. 2.

Auto hobby shop — closed Dec. 23-Jan. 2.

Bay Breeze Golf Course — 7 a.m. to dusk daily; no rental carts available.

Child development center — closed Dec. 25, 29 and Jan. 1; Dec. 26-28 and Jan. 2 based on survey of parents.

Family child care office — closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

Live Oak Dining Facility — 5:30-7:30 a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 5-6:30 p.m. workdays; 7:30-9 a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 5-6:30 a.m. New Year’s Day, down Fridays and weekends; 7-8 a.m., 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 4:30-6 p.m. Dec. 25 retirees and their families may attend.

Magnolia Dining Facility — 6-8 a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 5-6:30 p.m. work days; 7:30-9 a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5-6:30 p.m. nonworking Fridays, weekends and New Year’s Day; 7-8 a.m., 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 4:30-6 p.m. Dec. 25.

Azalea Dining Facility — closed Dec. 23 until 6 p.m. Jan. 3.

Blake Fitness Center — closed Dec. 25; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 23-24 and Dec. 26-Jan 2.

Dragon and Triangle fitness centers — closed Dec. 22-Jan. 1.

Gaudé Lanes — closed Dec. 24-30 and Jan. 1-2, closed; 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Dec. 31 for New Year’s Eve party.

Information, ticket and trip office — closed Dec. 19-28.

Katrina Kantina — closed Dec. 22-29.

Mini-mart — open 24 hours.

McBride Library — closed Dec. 24-26 and Dec. 31-Jan. 1;

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SHUTTLE SCHEDULE

6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:00	:30 332nd TRS, Building 6957
:01	:31 338th TRS, Building 6965
:02	:32 Welch Auditorium
:04	:34 AAFES Furniture Store
:06	:36 Jones/Bryan/Hewes Hall at gazebo
:08	:38 Thomson Hall
:09	:39 New Cody Hall
:11	:41 Supply, civil engineering
:12	:42 Rental store
:13	:43 Shaw House
:14	:44 Old base exchange
:15	:45 McBride Library
:16	:46 Credit union, Blake Fitness Center
:17	:47 Medical center, Tyler House
:18	:48 Sablich Center
:19	:49 Dental clinic
:20	:50 Allee and Wolfe Halls
:21	:51 Base operations
:22	:52 Hangar 4

Technical training route

5:10-5:37 a.m. weekdays

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:10	Building 5025
:12	Building 5022
:14	Shaw House
:16	Muse Manor
:18	Tyler House
:20	TLQ east side 2000 block
:21	TLQ east side of Locker House
:25	332nd TRS
:28	Welch Auditorium
:33	Thomson/Dolan/Cody Halls
:34	McClellan Hall
:36	Allee/Wolfe Halls
:37	Stennis Hall/Weather

Prior-service students lodged off-base

Call 377-2432 for transportation needs. Traffic in the local area impacts base taxi times.

Editor’s note: Duty passengers have priority over “space available” riders. Schedule may be impacted by increased official operations or severe weather. Those who are physically challenged, have excess baggage, medical appointments at off-base hospitals or clinics or unable to ride the base shuttle, call 377-2432 for the base taxi. For more information, call 377-2430. Until further notice, weekend shuttle service isn’t available. Taxi service is available on an “as needed” basis.

COAST AREA TRANSIT

Keesler Express — runs between the Triangle and Edgewater Mall. Bus service begins from the base, 5:50-8:30 p.m. work days, 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. down Fridays and Saturdays, and 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sundays.

The route is limited to specific pickup and dropoff points:

Minutes after hour, bus stop

:30	Hercules Street bus stop
:32	Welch Auditorium
:45	Pass Road Wal-Mart
:54	Arrive Edgewater Mall
:00	Depart Edgewater Mall
:09	Pass Road Wal-Mart
:22	Welch Auditorium
:24	Hercules Street bus stop

The regular adult fare is \$1. An unlimited one-day pass is \$5 and one-month pass is \$45.

For more information, call 896-8080.

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open noon to 5 p.m. Dec. 22-23 and 26-30.

- Outdoor recreation** — closed Dec. 22-26 and Jan. 1.
- Vandenberg Community Center** — 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Dec. 21-23; 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 24, 26-29; 11 a.m. Dec. 31 to 1 a.m. Jan. 1 for New Year's Eve parties; noon to 6 p.m. Jan. 1-2.
- Halftime Café** — closed Dec. 18-Jan. 5 for renovation.
- Veterinary clinic** — closed Dec. 25-26.
- Youth center** — closed Dec. 23-Jan. 1.
- Car wash** — open 24 hours.
- Fam camp** — open 24 hours.

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

- Class 07-1** — graduation Dec. 14.
- Class 07-2** — Jan. 8-Feb. 15.
- Class 07-3** — Feb. 21-March 29.
- Class 07-4** — April 16-May 23.
- Class 07-5** — June 5-July 12.
- Class 07-6** — Aug. 3-Sept. 12.
- Class 07-7** — Sept. 18-Oct. 26.

Keesler NCO Academy

- Class 07-1** — graduation Dec. 14.
- Class 07-2** — Jan. 9-Feb. 16.
- Class 07-3** — Feb. 27-April 5.
- Class 07-4** — April 17-May 24.
- Class 07-5** — May 30-July 10.
- Class 07-6** — Aug. 2-Sept. 11.
- Class 07-7** — Sept. 18-Oct. 26.

Arts and crafts center

- Toast to holiday treats** — 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. working Fridays. Light snack, create gifts and decorations, craft demonstrations.
- Youth gift camp** — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. \$25 including supplies and lunch. Make three items.
- Cooking class** — 1 p.m. Dec. 15. Holiday treats; call for details.
- Advanced pottery** — 10 a.m. to noon or 1-3 p.m. Dec. 16. Three spaces per class. \$40. Beginners pottery class prerequisite.
- Sewing** — 1 p.m. Dec. 16. \$30. Holiday gifts and decorations.
- Ceramic painting** — Christmas project for your table or to give as a gift; call for details.
- Beginning intarsia** — 10 a.m. Saturday. \$15. Intarsia is art of inlaying pieces of wood in decorative patterns.
- Beginners woodworking** — 5-7:30 p.m. Wednesday. \$25. Earn safety certification and get operator's card for future shop use.
- Advanced intarsia** — 10 a.m. Dec. 16. \$20. New project each month.
- Advanced matting** — \$25. Beginners framing prerequisite. For date and time, call 377-2821.
- Engraving shop** — wide selection of items for unique gift-giving.
- Beginner auto care classes for groups** — call for details.
- Winterize your vehicle** — check antifreeze and pick up free checklist.
- Oil collection site** — for privately-owned vehicles.
- 24-hour coin-operated car wash** — features foamy brush wash, high pressure rinse, wax system, towelettes, Armorall and vacuum station.
- Vehicle resale lot** — on Tingle Street, north of the 81st Security Forces Squadron building on Larcher Boulevard. Previously owned vehicles for sale. To place a vehicle on the lot, bring your registration, license and proof of insurance to multi-craft shop in the arts and crafts center. \$5 for two weeks, \$10 for month.

McBride Library

- Orientations** — 6 p.m. Wednesdays.
- Christmas stories** — 10 a.m. Wednesday, ages 2-5.
- Christmas display** — throughout the month.
- Tours** — For information, call 377-2827.

Chapel

- All classes are held at the Triangle Chapel Annex through May. For more information, call 377-2520.
- Protestant Sunday school** — 9:15-10:15 a.m. class available for babies, toddlers and adults.
- Team kids Sunday** — 4-5:30p.m. grades K-6.
- Men's Bible study** — Tuesdays noon-1 p.m.
- Women's Wednesday morning Bible class** — 9-11 a.m.
- Wednesday night youth Bible study** — 6:30-8 p.m.

Family advocacy

- Anger management** — 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays. For more information, call 377-6216, 376-3458 or e-mail susan.pyles@keesler.af.mil.
- 1-2-3 Magic** — parenting class; to register call 376-3457.

TRANSITIONS

Workshops, briefings

- Veterans benefits briefing** — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 14, Room 122, old Cody Hall. In 2007, briefings are 1-4 p.m. Jan. 24, Feb. 15, March 15, April 5, May 10, June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 13, Oct. 18, Nov. 8 and Dec. 13 in Room 151, old Cody Hall. To pre-register, call Lana Smith, 377-8593 or 2179 or e-mail lana.smith@keesler.af.mil.
- Mandatory pre-separation briefings** — Tuesdays at 8:30-9:30 a.m. for those separating with honorable discharges and 9:30-10:30 a.m. for retirees. Afternoon sessions are Thursdays at 1-2 p.m. for those separating with honorable discharges (not general under honorable conditions) and 2:30-3:30 p.m. for retirees. Briefings are in Room 122, old Cody Hall. Bring one copy of separation or retirement orders. This is a mandated appointment, required by law, and must be accomplished 90 calendar days before the separation/retirement date. For short-notice separations or retirements, the briefing should be done as soon as possible.
- Transition assistance program workshop** — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, Room 122, old Cody Hall. In 2007, dates are Jan. 22-24, Feb. 12-14, March 12-14, April 2-4, May 7-9, June 18-20, July 16-18, Aug. 13-15, Sept. 10-12, Oct. 15-17, Nov. 5-7 and Dec. 10-12 in Room 151, old Cody Hall. Dress is business casual — no jeans, T-shirts or uniforms. To pre-register, call Lana Smith, 377-8593 or 2179 or e-mail lana.smith@keesler.af.mil.
- Retirement briefings** — intended for those with less than a year until retirement, 8-11 a.m. Jan. 11, Feb. 8, March 8, April 12, May 3, June 14, July 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 6, Oct. 4, Nov. 1 and Dec. 6, in Room 151, old Cody Hall. To pre-register, call Lana Smith, 377-8593 or 2179 or e-mail lana.smith@keesler.af.mil.
- Palace Chase briefings** — 10 a.m. first two working Fridays of the month, Room 203, Garrard Hall. For more information, call Master Sgt. Joseph Walker, 377-2116.

Computer use

- Government computers** — commanders may authorize their use for preparation of personal resumes by people separating or retiring from the service on an "as available" basis as long as use doesn't adversely affect the mission.
- Transition employment opportunities public folder** — go to e-mail "public folders" and click on "transition employment opportunities" for job opportunities for active duty and family members. For more information, call 377-8592 or 8593.

Employment opportunities

- Junior ROTC** — immediate employment opportunities for retired or retiring Air Force officers and noncommissioned officers. Those who retired within the past 10 years or are six months from retirement may qualify to be an instructor. To apply or for more information, go to <http://www.afaots.af.mil> and select "AFJROTC" or call Jo Alice Talley, toll free 1-866-235-7682, extension 7742; DSN 493-7742, or commercial (334) 953-7742.
- Opportunities for medics** — for members separating from active duty interested in the Air Force Reserve or the Palace Chase programs, call Master Sgt. Joseph Walker, 377-7116, for an appointment. His office is in Room 229, old Cody Hall.
- Opportunities for medics** — the Air Force Reserve needs flight surgeons, doctors, dentists and nurses. Some opportunities are available with the 403rd Aeromedical Staging Squadron at

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DINING HALL MENUS

Thursday

- Lunch** — herbed baked chicken, cornbread, stuffed cabbage rolls, fried catfish, blackeyed peas with rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, peas, fruit salad, potato salad, cream of broccoli soup, chicken and wild rice soup, chili, cannonball sandwich and Italian pepper beef sandwich.
- Dinner** — roast pork loin, jaegerschnitzel veal, cornbread, cornish hen, potato halves, orange rice, gravy, carrots, pinto beans, corn combo, fruit salad, potato salad, cream of broccoli soup, chicken and wild rice soup, chili, cannonball sandwich and Italian pepper beef sandwich.

Friday

- Lunch** — Mexican baked chicken, Swiss steak, stuffed peppers, macaroni and cheese, rice, gravy, corn on the cob, beans, peas and carrots, pasta salad, three-bean salad, clam chowder, garden vegetable soup, frontier chicken chili, barbecue pork sandwiches and burritos.
- Dinner** — lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce, Italian sausage, garlic toast, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli polonaise, cauliflower, Italian baked beans, corn O'Brien, pasta salad, three-bean salad, clam chowder, garden vegetable soup, frontier chicken chili, barbecue pork sandwiches and burritos.

Saturday

- Lunch** — baked chicken, baked chicken, meat loaf, rib-eye steak, baked potatoes, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, peas, carrots, fruit medley, kidney bean salad, country bean soup, chicken gumbo, chili with beans and buffalo wings.
- Dinner** — fish almonidine, stir-fry chicken with broccoli, pork chops, rissole potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, calico corn, club spinach, fried okra, fruit medley, kidney bean salad, bean soup, chicken gumbo, chili and buffalo wings.

Sunday

- Lunch** — tuna and noodles, sauerbraten, chicken breast filet parmesan, au gratin potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, peas, fried cabbage, tomato salad, jellied spring salad, vegetable beef soup, Italian wedding soup, frontier chicken chili and cheese pizza.
- Dinner** — ginger barbecue chicken, fried shrimp, spinach lasagna, orange rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, black-eyed peas, lima beans, corn O'Brien, tomato salad, jellied spring salad, vegetable beef soup, Italian wedding soup, frontier chicken chili and cheese pizza.

Monday

- Lunch** — Swiss steak, baked chicken, cornbread, Italian sausage, peppers and onions, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli Polonaise, carrots, cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumplings soup, minestrone, chili with beans, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.
- Dinner** — turkey, cornbread, ham, raisin sauce, fish and fries, mashed potatoes, cornbread dressing, gravy, succotash, tempura vegetables, green beans, garden cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone, chili with beans, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

Tuesday

- Lunch** — onion lemon baked fish, pork schnitzel steak, beef and spaghetti, garlic toast, baked and mashed potatoes, gravy, pinto beans, spinach, stewed tomatoes, spinach salad, waldorf salad, white chicken chili, seven-bean with ham soup, chicken noodle soup and steak and cheese subs and tacos.
- Dinner** — paprika beef, barbecue beef cubes, chicken fajitas, garlic toast, O'Brien potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower, corn on the cob, lima beans, waldorf salad, spinach salad, white chicken chili, seven-bean with ham soup, steak and cheese subs and tacos, chicken noodle soup.

Wednesday

- Lunch** — fried chicken, cajun baked fish, jalapeno, barbecue ribs, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn on the cob, okra and tomato gumbo, fried cabbage, cole slaw, garden cottage cheese salad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza.
- Dinner** — pita pizzas, jalapeno cornbread, country-style steak, fried chicken, oven-brown potatoes, mashed potatoes, gravy, fried cauliflower, bean combo, cabbage, cole slaw, cottage cheeselad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza.

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Keesler. Eligible members enjoy many military benefits of being in the military and earn retirement credit, while serving two days per month of inactive training and two weeks of active duty training each year. Some members may be eligible for signing bonus or loan repayment. For more information call Tech. Sgt. George Adams, health professions recruiter, 377-7655 or e-mail george.adams@keesler.af.mil.

Web sites

Executive transition assistance program — <https://www-r.aetcd.af.mil/dp/etap>. Online registration dates for 2007 programs are Tuesday through Dec. 14 for Feb. 6-9 program at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas; March 5-15 for May 8-11 program at Lackland AFB, Texas; June 5-14 for Aug. 21-24 at Little Rock AFB, Ark.; and Sept. 12-21 for Nov. 27-30, 2007 program at Randolph.

Defense Manpower Data Center — <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dors> or <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/tbb>.

Air Force Blue to Corporate Gray — <http://www.blue.togray.com>.

Air Force Federal Employment Resume and Information — <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/resweb>.

Civilian job certification and licensing requirements for military personnel and veterans — <http://www.dol.gov/dol/vets>.

Department of Veterans Affairs — <http://www.vba.va.gov/efif/index.htm>; for members returning from Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Southern Region Military and Civilian Job Fair — <http://www.mesc.state.ms.us/jobfair>.

New military spouse career center — <http://www.military.com/spouse>. Extensive job board including jobs from public and private sectors. For more information, call Vince Patton, 703-269-0154, or e-mail at vince@militaryadvantage.com.

Military Connection — online resources database for military family members seeking civilian employment at <http://www.militaryconnection.com>

America's Job Bank — <http://www.ajb.dni.us>.

An American
is sexually assaulted
every 2 1/2 minutes.

One in five American women
has been the victim of an
attempted or completed rape.

About 10 percent
of sexual assault victims
are men.

At least 2/3 of sexual assaults
are committed by someone
who is known to the victim.

44 percent of rape victims
are under age 18,
and 80 percent
are under age 30.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Vandenberg Community Center

Free gift wrapping — noon to 5 p.m. Dec. 17 for nonprior students only; limit four gifts per person.

Decorated squadron day rooms contest — permanent party and nonprior service residents. To enter, call 377-3308 no later than Dec. 14. Judging Dec. 19; winners announced Dec. 20.

Home for the holidays — 5-9 p.m. Dec. 21. Help us decorate our Christmas tree. Free refreshments, movies and caroling.

Holiday exodus games — Dec. 25-30. For more information, call 377-3308.

Direct TV football party — 11 a.m. Dec. 31 for nonprior service students only.

New Year's Eve party — 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dec. 31 for nonprior service students only. \$3. DJ, dance, party favors and food.

Eight-ball pool tournament — 6-9:30 p.m. Mondays

Nine-ball pool tournament — 6-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays.

Game night — 6 p.m. Wednesdays. Board games, cards, ping pong tournament and more.

Dance revolution — 6 p.m. Wednesdays.

Karaoke — 6 p.m. Thursdays.

Late night dance and DJ — 6 p.m. to midnight Thursdays before nonworking Fridays, Fridays and Saturdays. \$3.

Direct TV NFL Sunday Ticket — up to eight games.

Half Time Café — Open for lunch and dinner. Buffet specials 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. — Wednesdays Italian \$5.95, working Fridays catfish \$6.50.

Katrina Kantina

All ranks invited — snacks, beverages and music in the marina building overlooking Biloxi's Back Bay. Open 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays-working Fridays; closed nonworking Fridays.

Football frenzy — noon to 6 p.m. Sunday and Dec. 17. Watch your favorite team on Direct TV.

Taco Tuesdays — Tuesday and Dec. 19. Members 2 tacos for \$1, nonmembers \$2.

Thirsty Thursday — 5 p.m. Dec. 14. Soup and sandwich, \$5 for members, \$7 nonmembers.

Random cash giveaway — once a week between 5:30-6:30 p.m. \$50 given to a club member; must be present to win.

Catering — our caterer can help you plan weddings, holidays, birthdays, official functions and other special occasions.

Youth center

Annual membership — \$25 for ages 6 and older. Receive discounted prices for programs, classes and sports.

Youth holiday celebration — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 16, ages 6 and older, hosted by the 334th Training Squadron.

Art and cultural fine arts exhibit — Dec. 18-22 during regular hours.

Holiday camp — Dec. 18-22, ages 6-12. Sign up by Wednesday. \$10 non-refundable pre-registration fee.

Free Santa calling service — register your child at the center no later than Dec. 15 for call Dec. 20-23.

Basketball registration — through Dec. 22 for ages 6 and older. \$30 members, \$35 non members.

Power hour — 4:30-5:30 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, ages 9-16.

Movies and snacks — 5 p.m. Mondays, ages 9 and older.

Self-directed activities — 3-7 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays for ages 9-18. Free for members, 50 cents daily guest fee.

Movies and snacks — 4 p.m. Mondays, ages 9 and older.

TRAIL Keystone Club meeting — 6-7 p.m. Tuesday and Dec. 12 and 19, ages 13-17. Focus is on outdoor adventures and community service.

Creative corner — 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Art projects, story telling or poetry writing.

Wacky Wednesday — 5-6 p.m. Board, table game tournaments.

Dance — 4:15 p.m. Thursdays, ages 3-5; 5 p.m. ages 6 and older. \$30 members, \$35 nonmembers.

Instructors needed — for youth programs, including those for preschoolers and special classes. For more information, call 377-4116.

TICKETS AND TRIPS

Discounted tickets — for many attractions including Busch Gardens, Sea World, Universal Studios and Disney World in

Florida. For price list, log on to <https://www.mil.keesler.af.mil/81svs/WhattoDo/ITT/index.htm>.

Information on local and out of state attractions — free brochures with information on Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida and Georgia.

Tours to New Orleans Saints games in the Superdome — \$60 including ticket. Put your name on waiting list for Dec. 17, Washington Redskins, sign up by Tuesday; Dec. 31, Carolina Panthers, sign up by Dec. 13. All trips depart Vandenberg Community Center 9 a.m., return 6 p.m.

Trip to Bellingrath Gardens in Alabama — 4-7 p.m. Dec. 22 to view the holiday lights display and Bellingrath home. \$33 including transportation and admission. Sign up by Wednesday.

MEETINGS

Editor's note: To list time, place and contact for organization meetings, call 377-3837 or e-mail KN@keesler.af.mil.

Upcoming

Air Force Sergeants Association — 7 a.m. Tuesday, Live Oak Dining Facility. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Scott Sippel, 377-2337, or Master Sgt. James Craig, 377-4136.

Recurring

African-American Heritage Committee — 3:30 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, Room 109, Taylor Logistics Building. For more information, call Paulette Powell, 377-2270, or Kurt Higgins, 377-1390.

Air Force Sergeants Association — 11:30 a.m. third Tuesday of the month, Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call Master Sgt. Scott Sippel, 377-2337.

Air Force Sergeants Association Auxiliary — 6 p.m. third Thursday of the month, youth center, J Street. For more information, call Desarae Chereskin, 341-0988.

Airmen Against Drunk Driving — 3:15 p.m. first Tuesday of the month, Vandenberg Community Center second floor conference room. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Brian Yelton, 377-0167, or e-mail keesler.aadd.officers@keesler.af.mil.

At Eze Toastmasters Club — 11 a.m. Tuesdays, Building 1101 conference room. For more information, call Chief Master Sgt. Don Seaton, 377-5958, or Fred Blache, 377-1048, or visit <http://www.toastmasters.org>.

Keesler Amateur Radio Club — 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Hangar 3, Room 215. Check out the club repeater on 146.79 negative offset. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Justin Meyer, 377-4149 or 324-5806, or e-mail justin.meyer2@keesler.af.mil.

Keesler Christian Home Educators Association — meets 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, September-May, Larcher Chapel. For more information, call Michelle Durkin, 872-9393, or e-mail chelle1rn@yahoo.com.

Keesler Spouses Club — meets the second Tuesday of the month. For time and location, call Tammie Searfass, president, 273-4324, or visit <http://www.KeeslerSpousesClub.com>.

Native American Heritage Committee — for more information, call R.I. Whiteside, 863-0479, or Capt. Elizabeth Taillon, 377-6242.

Retired Enlisted Association Magnolia Chapter 81 — 6:30 p.m. second Thursday of the month, Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call Larry McKean, 377-3252 or 374-5922.

Rising VI Association — 3:15 p.m. third Wednesday of the month in Room 121, Thompson Hall. For more information, call Staff Sgts. Patrick McKimmie, 377-1513, or James Pope, 377-1305.

MISCELLANEOUS

Movies

Editor's note: Movies are shown at Welch Auditorium. Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children for regular features, and \$2.50 for adults and \$1 for children for matinees. For a recording about current features, call 377-6627.

Friday — 6:30 p.m., The Prestige (PG-13, 130 minutes).

Saturday — 2 p.m., The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause (G, 98 minutes); 6:30 p.m., Saw III (R, 107 minutes).

Sunday — 2 p.m., Texas Chainsaw Massacre (R, 91 minutes).